

a dozen or fifteen miles might be added to the city in this direction, since there is nothing but an unbroken succession of towns and villages for this distance, which are as populous and well-built as the city itself.

"In crossing the city from the shore to the western outskirts I have walked two miles and a half, and then proceeded on horseback for ten miles further, making twelve miles and a half, while in other places it may be wider. According to the lowest estimate, the city covers an area equal to seven of the New England farming towns, which are usually six miles square. And all is traversed by streets, usually wide, well constructed, perfectly neat, and crossing each other at right angles, streets lined with houses and stores as compactly as they can be built, and crowded with moving and stationary masses, as thick as in Washington street, or New York Broadway, at least for considerable distances. The population is estimated generally at three millions, which Mr. Harris, our minister, thinks is no exaggeration. For my part, judging from what I have seen when I have gone into the heart of the city, and crossed the city from side to side, I should be willing to add as many millions more; for the living, moving masses, seen from sunrise to sunset, and everywhere the same, fairly seemed beyond computation."

—The following interesting items are from Mr. Roswag's new work on the subject entitled *Les Metaux Précieux*. From the year 1500 to 1848 America yielded 27,122 millions of francs in silver, and 10,028 millions of francs in gold. These numbers comprise 13,774 millions of silver drawn from Mexico, 43,059 from Peru and Bolivia, 230 from Chili, and 58 from New Granada. As to gold, the share of Brazil was 4,625 millions of francs; that of Granada, 1,952; of Mexico, 1,341; of Peru and Bolivia, 1,171; of Chili, 862; and of the United States, 76. Europe during the same period only produced 2,330 millions of francs in silver, and 1,600 ditto in gold. Africa yielded 2,500 millions from Guinea. Hence the total quantity of precious metals existing in 1848, including 1,000 millions supposed to exist before 1500, formed a total of 44,578 millions of francs—viz., silver, 30,152, and gold, 14,426. From 1848 to 1857 the stock of precious metals has been increased by 2,170 millions of francs of silver, and 6,004 of gold. Of the latter, California has produced 2,506 millions, and the rest of America 445. Australia has yielded 1,095, and Europe 743, including Russia for 678 millions. Asia has contributed 505 millions, and Africa 108. Of silver, Australia has yielded 9 millions; America, 1,827; Europe, 321; and Asia, 22, forming a total of 2,179 millions of francs. There consequently exist at present in the world 32,331 millions of francs of silver, and 20,430 of gold. The ratio of gold to silver, which before 1848 was as 1 to 2, is now as 2 to 3. In weight there existed before 1848 about 31 kilogrammes of silver for every kilogramme of gold; in 1856 this proportion had fallen to less than 24 kilogrammes of silver for one kilogramme of gold. Since 1856 the total annual increase of the precious metals may be stated at 240 millions of francs of silver, and 500 of gold, being more than double the former.

—The growth of the population of the British Islands during the last one hundred and fifty years is prodigious. The surplus has furnished the great majority of the population of British America, Australia, and the United States. Great Britain and Ireland have furnished upwards of 30,000,000 of people to these countries, and yet the home population, which was in the year 1700, only 7,650,000, and in 1800, only 15,800,000, is now upwards of 30,000,000. The British Islands have doubled their population twice in one hundred and sixty-five years. France in the year 1700 contained 19,669,000 inhabitants, in 1800, 27,349,000, and in 1860, 37,000,000—so that her population has not doubled once during the same one hundred and sixty years, although she has done but little in the way of colonization. The other European States show but a very slow rate of increase; in fact, we believe that one or two of them remain in *statu quo*.

—From returns of the Registrar General, in the middle of the present year, the population of the following towns were:—London, 3,015,494; Liverpool, 476,368; Manchester, 354,930; Salford, 110,833; Birmingham, 327,812; Leeds, 224,025; Bristol, 161,809; Edinburgh, 174,180; Glasgow, 423,723; Dublin, 317,666.

NECROLOGICAL INTELLIGENCE.

—Rev. Mr. Faucher, who died recently at Lotbinière, was one of the oldest *curés* of the District of Quebec and a most zealous friend of the cause of Education. He was the founder of the Lotbinière Academy, a very successful and well managed school.

—Death is very busy with our veteran politicians just now. Mr. Notman has just been laid in the grave, and now we are called to mourn the decease of the Hon. James Morris, one of the oldest and prominent Reformers in the Upper Province. Mr. Morris was seized with paralysis some years ago, and though he recovered from the worst effects of the stroke, he never became strong, and has for some time been laid aside

from public duty. Two days ago the members of his family were summoned to his bedside, and yesterday evening he breathed his last. Mr. Morris was born in Paisley, Scotland, in 1798, and was consequently only 67 when he died. His father, Mr. Alexander Morris, emigrated to Canada in 1801 with his family, and became a resident first of Montreal, and afterwards of the township of Elizabethtown. James Morris was educated at Sorel, by Mr. Nelson, father of the late Dr. Wolfred Nelson, of Montreal, and became a merchant in Brockville, in which occupation he amassed considerable wealth. He was brought very prominently into public life by the Clergy Reserve struggle, and was elected to the Upper Canada Parliament in July, 1837, for the county of Leeds. He was again elected for Leeds to the Parliament of the United Provinces, and in 1844 was called to the Legislative Council, and has since been, until lately, one of the most prominent members of that body. In 1851, when the charge of the Post Office was transferred from the Imperial to the Provincial authorities, Mr. Morris was appointed Postmaster General, with a seat in the Cabinet; and his admirable habits of business and desire for economy, did great service in the organization of the new system. He arranged a postal treaty with the United States, and introduced the uniform rate of five cents letter postage now existing. In 1853, Mr. Morris resigned his office of Postmaster General, and became Speaker of the Council, and in the following year went out of office at the fall of the Hincks-Morin Government. From 1854 to 1858, he led the Opposition in the Upper House, and was appointed Speaker when the Brown-Dorion Government took office in that year.

Mr. Morris was possessed of great shrewdness, tact, and knowledge of affairs; he was kind and conciliatory in his manner; and in all his public actions was animated by an anxious desire to serve his country. He was a steady, consistent member of the Reform party, and will long be remembered as a prominent participant in its trials and triumphs during a period of more than thirty years.—*Toronto Globe*.

—All lovers of genuine humor will have heard of the death of the author of *Sam Slick* with regret. Mr. Haliburton had fixed his residence in England some years ago, and had entered the political arena there, but except as the champion of the British North American colonies, he had never risen to a very prominent position in the Imperial Parliament. He was the son of Judge Haliburton and was born at Windsor, Nova Scotia, in 1796. Having completed his studies at King's College, he was successively admitted to the bar, appointed a judge while still comparatively young, and promoted to the Chief Justiceship of Nova Scotia. His reputation as an author is due to his celebrated delineation of Yankee character, *Sam Slick, the Clockmaker*, which first appeared in a local newspaper and met with great success in the United States and also in England, where it was published in book form, and finally passed through several editions in both hemispheres. *The Attaché*, or *Sam Slick in England*, published after his visit to Britain in 1842, a *History of Nova Scotia*, in two volumes, and several humorous works and political pamphlets followed his first and most successful literary effort. The most remarkable among the publications here alluded to, are *Bubbles of Canada*, *The Old Judge*, and *Natur' and Human Natur'*. In the year 1858, the University of Oxford conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor.

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

—About the year 1794, there was a man living in Providence named Elijah Ormsbee. He was born in Rehoboth, but had worked for a season near Albany. While there, his observation of the difficulty of navigating the Hudson by sails alone, led him to think of steam as a propelling power. While employed at Cranston, repairing a large steam engine employed for pumping water from an ore bed, he was called on by David Wilkinson, and communicated to him the idea of a steamboat. He offered to furnish the boat, provided Mr. Wilkinson would provide the engine. The proposition was accepted. Mr. Wilkinson went home, made his patterns, cast and bored the cylinders, suggested two plans of paddles, and the boat was finished. At a retired place called Winsor's Grove, about three miles and a half from Providence, Ormsbee completed his arrangements, and, on one pleasant evening, made his first trip to Providence. On the following day, he went in his steamboat to Pawtucket to show her to his friends, and the two ingenious mechanics exhibited her between the two bridges. "After our frolic was over," says Mr. Wilkinson in writing of the matter more than half a century afterwards, "being short of funds, we hauled the boat up and gave it over."

It is fair to claim that had the Pawtucket been a larger stream, so that steam had been as important for it as for the Hudson, or had some discerning capitalist been ready to afford the pecuniary aid needful for testing and perfecting the invention, the chaplet that adorned the head of Fulton might have been woven over the brows of Wilkinson and Ormsbee, and the Pawtucket river and Narragansett bay would have had an additional claim to fame.—*Centennial Address, North Providence*.